

ABSTRACT

An autoloading pistol with a magazine disconnect mechanism that blocks discharge of the pistol when the magazine is removed by action upon the pistol's firing pin. The pistol may generally include a removable magazine, a housing defining a chamber to hold a cartridge, and a firing pin movable towards the chamber. The magazine disconnect mechanism includes a blocking member which may be movably disposed in the housing, and is movable into and out of engagement with the firing pin. In one embodiment, an actuator may be provided that controls the position of the blocking member and is movable in response to the insertion and removal of the magazine from the pistol. The actuator in a possible first position disengages the blocking member from the firing pin when the magazine is inserted in the pistol to allow the pistol to be discharged. The actuator in a possible second position engages the blocking member with the firing pin when the magazine is removed from the pistol to prevent the firing pin from moving forward toward the chamber. In one embodiment, the actuator may be an ejector that also ejects spent cartridges from the pistol after discharging the pistol.